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CANADA WILL PROVIDE \$954,200 TO ASSIST REFUGEES
AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

HARARE, ZIMBABWE--The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that Canada will provide \$954,200 to the Canadian Council of Churches to assist displaced persons in Mozambique and Mozambican refugees who have fled to Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi and South Africa. The funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was announced at the third meeting of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa under the chairmanship of Mr. Clark.

Destabilization in Southern Africa, especially the activities of RENAMO in Mozambique, has resulted in large refugee flows into neighbouring countries as well as the creation of substantial internally-displaced populations. "The growing number of refugees and displaced people in Southern Africa is totally unacceptable," Mr. Clark said. "Canada will not remain passive and we will actively devote all efforts to bring an end to this human tragedy."

"The Canadian Council of Churches is presently working very closely with the African Council of Churches and in conjunction with the Ecumenical Emergencies Coordination Office for Southern Africa to ease the lives of refugees," Mr. Clark stated. "Together we must focus on this urgent problem and appeal to the international community for assistance in solving it."

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

In Zimbabwe, assistance will be provided to some 100,000 Mozambicans located in five refugee camps. Problems being addressed by the relief program include water and food shortages, as well as health and hygiene.

Relief activities in Zambia will include the provision of blankets, clothing and temporary shelter to refugees in the border areas, particularly to the Ukwimi camp.

The Christian Council of Tanzania will distribute food and supplies and will provide health care while paying special attention to new refugee arrivals in government-maintained centres in the cities as well as those in rural areas.

The South African Council of Churches will supply the refugees with blankets, clothing and temporary shelter materials.

Relief and rehabilitation will be the focus of activities organized by the Christian Council of Mozambique and the Christian Service Committee. These activities will include the provision of food, seeds and tools for returnees.

In addition, the Christian Council of Malawi will diversify its relief program from food distribution to providing items such as clothing, utensils, blankets and soap.